

We welcome volunteers from all cultures, professions, ethnic and educational backgrounds.

## Did you know?

In 2015, in South Carolina, there were over 4,900 reports received of vulnerable adults being abused, neglected, or exploited. Many of these reports resulted in court proceedings.

### We Need You!

Make a difference through volunteering to serve as guardians ad Litem for vulnerable adults.

As a South Carolina Vulnerable
Adult Guardian ad Litem volunteer, you will represent the best interests of an adult in court by being their advocate.



# What is the South Carolina Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem (SCVAGAL) Program

The mission of the SCVAGAL Program is to advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected, and exploited adults under adult protective service custody in the South Carolina Family Court System.

Do you have a desire to help adults who have been abused, neglected, or exploited and have been placed in adult protective services custody? As a SCVAGAL volunteer, you will receive training from professionals in the legal and human services fields. Your involvement makes a direct impact on a vulnerable adult's life.



SCVAGAL volunteers act as advocates on behalf of the vulnerable adults they serve. If you have a heart for advocacy, come join us.

# Why is a guardian ad litem appointed?

scvaGal volunteers are appointed by a judge to recommend the best possible outcome for adults who have been abused, neglected or exploited. The adults we serve are under the custody of the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS).



# Responsibilities of a SCVAGAL Volunteer Include:

- Representing the best interest of the vulnerable adult
- Gathering information about the situation of the adult
- Meeting with and observing the adult
- Interviewing law enforcement and others
- Considering the wishes of the adult
- Presenting written reports to the court



# Please contact us for more information:

### **SCVAGAL**

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Adults in photos are not from actual abuse and neglect cases.



# South Carolina Vulnerable Adult Guardian ad Litem Volunteer Program

Lieutenant Governor's Office



